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Los Alamos Science

LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

"...When you come right down to it the reason that we did this job is because it was an organic necessity. If you are a scientist you cannot stop such a thing .... You believe that it is good to find out how the world works ... [and] to turn over to mankind at large the greatest possible power to control the world and to deal with it according to its lights and its values.

"... I think it is true to say that atomic weapons are a peril which affect everyone in the world, and in that sense a completely common problem .... I think that in order to handle this common problem there must be a complete sense of community responsibility.

"... The one point I want to hammer home is what an enormous change in spirit is involved. There are things which we hold very dear, and I think rightly hold very dear; I would say that the word democracy perhaps stood for some of them as well as any other word. There are many parts of the world in which there is no democracy .... And when I speak of a new spirit in international affairs I mean that even to these deepest of things which we cherish, and for which Americans have been willing to die—and certainly most of us would be willing to die—even in these deepest things, we realize that there is something more profound than that; namely the common bond with other men everywhere ...."

J. Robert Oppenheimer
speech to the Association of Los Alamos Scientists
Los Alamos
November 2, 1945

Excerpts from a speech to the Association of Los Alamos Scientists in Los Alamos, New Mexico, on November 2, 1945. Reprinted with permission from an original document in the Papers of the Federation of American Scientists, Box 21, Folder 4, Department of Special Collections, University of Chicago Library.

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OTHER PERSPECTIVES

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On the cover.

A celebration of the Laboratory's forty years in two- and three-dimensional computer graphics by Rongriego. The liquid-crystal-display font for the numeral* 40 *was constructed with a three-dimensional data base of polyhedrons. The two-dimensional multicolored patch pattern was generated with a simple scan-line algorithm, a random-number generator, and a linear/nonlinear color model. The program was written in ESP-FORTRAN and run on a VAX 11/780; the 35-mm output was generated on an FR80 color COM recorder.

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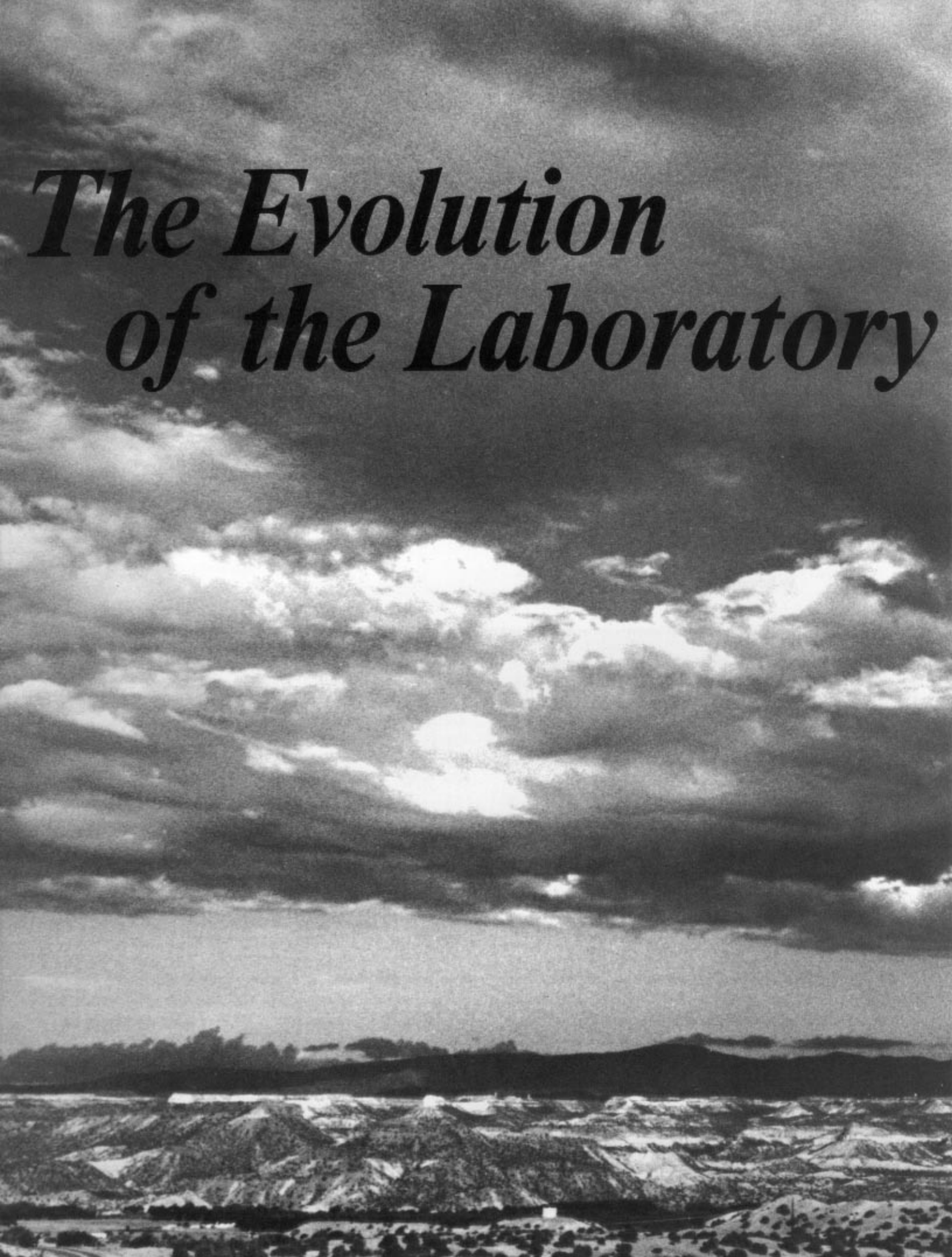
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